



## GYMNASTICS ONTARIO

### **RULES OF CONDUCT *For Ontario***

#### ***Team Representatives***

*GO Rules of Conduct - July 1999*

#### **I) INTRODUCTION:**

- Conduct, at all times, shall reflect honesty, good sportsmanship, courtesy and respect toward others.
- All policies, procedures, rules and regulations of G.O. must be followed at all times.
- Athletes (and their parent/guardian if under legal age) and coaches are required to read and abide by the Rules of Conduct, if selected to an Ontario Team. All selected athletes and coaches shall receive a copy of G.O. Rules of Conduct for Ontario Team Representatives.
- Coaches bear the primary responsibility for preparing athletes to conduct themselves properly at any event or competition sanctioned by G.O.
- In the Rules of Conduct, the term "delegate" refers to any athlete, coach, judge, chaperone, or other official traveling as part of the Ontario delegation to a competition. "Legal age" means 18 years of age. If the legal age of the country or province where a competition is located is higher than 18 years of age, then such older legal ages shall apply.

#### **II) GENERAL GUIDELINES:**

- All delegates are expected to abide by the decisions of Team Officials.
- All delegates are expected to comply at all times with the rules, regulations and protocol as laid out by the organizing committee of the competition.

*GO Rules of Conduct - July 1999*

i) *Dress Code:*

- All delegates are expected to comply with dress codes. This includes traveling attire and attire at the competition locations, warm-ups, and competition.

ii) *Curfew:*

- All athletes are expected to comply with curfews before, during, and after competition. Curfews shall be set on the basis of age and not discipline or gender.
- Where athletes of different ages are rooming together, the curfew applicable to the youngest athlete shall apply to all athletes assigned to the room.
- Curfews must be obeyed, except where a competition or training is scheduled or continues beyond the appointed curfew time.
- The Head of the Delegation may set a reasonable curfew to be followed by any other delegation members staying at the same facility as athletes.

iii) *Travel/Accommodation:*

- All delegates are expected to comply with team travel arrangements and schedules. Any delegates requiring special arrangements due to extenuating circumstances must make such arrangements through the Team Manager prior to travel.
- All athletes are expected to remain with the team during travel, and at the competition location, unless specific permission is received from Team Officials. Arrangements should be agreed upon between athlete, coach, and Team Manager at the beginning of the trip, for those old enough and mature enough to be responsible for themselves. Such athletes must ensure that their coach and/or Team Manager know of their whereabouts at all times.
- When Ontario athletes travel to competition with their own club, the club is responsible for the athletes' conduct.
- Accommodation changes, if different than those formally arranged by G.O., for the official hotel or official residence when attending any G.O. sanctioned competition, training camp or demonstration must be approved by the Head of the Delegation or Team Manager.

iv) Alcohol/Banned Substances:

- All delegates are subject to restrictions as to the use of alcohol or any banned substances as prescribed by Law, any other sport governing body or Sport Canada, or any conditions or restrictions imposed by any local authority.
- Use of banned substances for improving performance is prohibited as specified within Sport Canada's anti-doping policies and testing procedures.

v) Vandalism/Theft:

- Any and all delegates guilty of damaging property, theft or vandalism shall be held totally responsible, and shall be required to make reimbursement or restitution.

vi) Sportsmanship:

- Delegates are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner.

vii) Harassment:

- Harassment in any form or discrimination contrary to the Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms or the Ontario Human Rights Code is prohibited. For further information please consult the G.O. Harassment Policy.

## **APPLICATION OF RULES OF CONDUCT**

The Rules of Conduct shall apply to any competition to which Ontario athletes travel with a coach or manager appointed by G.O.

When Ontario athletes travel as part of another team, such as a National Team, they shall also be subject to the rules of conduct of that team.

## **IV) DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS**

- Delegates violating the Rules of Conduct for Ontario Team Representatives may be subject to disciplinary actions(s) in addition to any sanctions or penalties applied by law or other agents.
- The Head of Delegation, in consultation with team coaches and managers, is empowered by the Board of Directors to impose the following sanctions on any delegate who fails to comply

with the Rules of Conduct when participating in or traveling to or from any activity sanctioned by G.O. and/or when representing G.O. in any capacity:

- Verbal or written reprimand;
- Restriction or limitation of on site activities, including the removal of certain privileges;
- Removal of the athlete, coach or judge from competition;
- Delegate sent home at own expense;

Should it be necessary for a Head of Delegation to impose a sanction during a competition, training session, or while traveling or otherwise with respect to any activity sanctioned by The OGF and/or when representing G.O. in any capacity, then the Head of Delegation shall properly document the incident and ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that the principles of natural justice are followed prior to imposing the sanction.

The athlete's club and coach will be notified in writing of any disciplinary action taken other than a verbal reprimand.

Either the complainant or the individual or group sanctioned may applied to the Ethics Committee for a review of the decision of the Head of Delegation (request for review) within 30 days of the date of the decision/sanction.

The Ethics Committee is empowered by The Board of Directors to review, affirm, vary, substitute, reverse or rescind sanctions imposed by the Head of Delegation.

The Ethics Committee is empowered by the Board of Directors to impose additional sanctions. Sanction may include (but not limited): fine, suspension of benefits or privileges, probation, suspension or termination of membership.

#### **V) REVIEW AND APPEAL PROCEDURE**

- Any delegate may request a review of decision/sanction to the Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee shall address the request as per the Review Procedure in place;
- Should any delegate not agree with the Ethics Committee decision / sanction, they may request for Leave to Appeal as per the Appeal Procedure in place.

**VI) DEFINITIONS:**

- *Competition:* refers to the time between departure to and return from any competition.
- *Team Representative, Delegates:* refers to any individual representing G.O. including coaches, athletes, managers, chaperones, officials and Head of Delegation
- *Team Officials:* refers to Head of Delegation, Team Managers, coaches or other persons appointed by G.O. to have responsibility for athletes during a competition.

